Bot. Maſters, I am to diſcourſe wonders; but aske mee not what. For if I tell you, I am not true *Athenian*. I will tel you euery thing right as it fell out.

Quin. Let vs heare, ſweete *Bottome*.

Bot. Not a word of me: all that I will tell you, is, that the Duke hath dined. Get your apparell together, good ſtrings to your beards, new ribbands to your pumps, meete preſently at the Palace, euerie man looke ore his part: for the ſhort and the long is, our play is preferd. In any caſe let *Thisby* haue cleane linnen: and let not him that plaies the Lion, paire his nailes, for they ſhall hang out for the Lions clawes. And moſt deare Actors, eate no Onions, nor Garlicke; for we are to vtter ſweete breath, and I do not doubt but to heare them ſay, it is a ſweete Comedy. No more words: away, go away.

Enter Theſeus, Hippolita, and Philoſtrate.

Hip. Tis ſtrange my *Theſeus*, that theſe louers ſpeake of.

The. More ſtrange then true. I neuer may beleeue
Theſe anticke fables, nor theſe Fairy toies,
Louers and mad men haue ſuch ſeething braines,
Such ſhaping phantaſies, that apprehend more
Then coole reaſon euer comprehends.
The Lunaticke, the Louer, and the Poet,
Are of imagination all compact.
One ſees more diuels then vaſte hell can hold;
That is the mad man. The Louer, all as franticke,
Sees *Helens* beauty in a brow of *Egipt*.
The Poets eie in a fine frenzy rolling, doth glance
From heauen to earth, from earth to heauen.
And as imagination bodies forth the formes of things
Vnknowne; the Poets pen turnes them to ſhapes,
And giues to airy nothing, a locall habitation,
And a name. Such trickes hath ſtrong imagination,

That

That if it would but appre
It comprehends ſome brin
Or in the night, imagining
How eaſie is a buſh ſuppos

Hip. But all the ſtory of
And all their mindes transf
More witneſſeth than fanci
And growes to ſomething
But howſoeuer, ſtrange an

Enter louers: Lyſander, D

Theſ. Here come the lo
Ioy, gentle friends, ioy an
Of loue accompany your

Lyſ. More then to vs, w
boord, your bed.

Theſ. Come now, wha
haue,
To weare away this long a
Betweene or after ſupper,
Where is our vſuall manag
What Reuels are in hand?
To eaſe the anguiſh of a to
Call *Philoſtrate*.

Philo. Heere mighty *Th*

Theſ. Say, what abridg
What maske, what muſick
The lazie time, if not with

Phil. There is a briefe, h
Make choiſe of which you

Theſ. The battell with
By an *Athenian* Eunuch, to
Wee'l none of that. That
In glory of my kinſman *A*
The riot of the tipſie *Bach*